

their preparation for publication would be only a work of a few hours; but these notes are a very small fraction of the whole. I wonder that Mr. Butler did not write to me and ask for his notes, instead of for the first time intimating his dissatisfaction in this extraordinary manner. Since, however, he prefers this mode of procedure, I will mention that I am returning his notes only a few hours after first seeing his paper.

There is nothing in Mr. Butler's notes of 1887 or in the few remarks he makes in the paper to which I am replying which tends to "mystify" the subject. It has always been admitted that one animal may eat what another refuses. The effect which such colours and patterns as those of *Zeuzera aesculi* would have upon an insectivorous animal has been abundantly shown in my paper (*l. c.* p. 236). Mr. Butler's conclusions as to the larva of *Stauropus fugi* seem to me to be quite valueless in the absence of direct evidence, while the presumption is the other way. Insect-eating animals certainly keenly relish spiders, but they are nevertheless often afraid of spiders of a size such as *S. fugi* suggests. It is characteristic of the whole spirit of Mr. Butler's paper that he should ridicule my extension of H. Müller's interpretation of the attitude assumed by *S. fugi* so far as it may be supposed to apply to birds—a supposition to which I did not even allude—and that he should omit to mention the actual proofs which I obtained that alarm is caused by its attitude in the case of other animals (marmoset and lizard). Those who are interested in investigating a specimen of Mr. Butler's method of controversy would do well to compare his remarks on the spider-like attitude of *S. fugi* with my experiments and conclusions on the same subject (*Trans. Ent. Soc.* 1888, pp. 583–586).

Oxford,  
Oct. 4, 1889.

---

XLVIII.—*Descriptions of new Typhlopidae in the British Museum.* By G. A. BOULENGER.

*Helminthophis Petersii.*

Rostral half the width of the head, extending to between the eyes, truncate posteriorly, and forming a broad suture with the frontal; two superposed præoculars and a subocular; eye

distinguishable under the ocular; four upper labials, first largest, third in contact with the ocular. Diameter of body 55 times in the total length; tail a little longer than broad, ending in a spine. 20 scales round the body. Brown, each scale darker in the centre; snout and anal region yellowish.

A single specimen, 110 millim. long, from Guayaquil, collected by Mr. Fraser.

*Helminthophis Guentheri.*

Rostral one third the width of the head, extending to the level of the eyes, rounded posteriorly, and forming a suture with the frontal, which is very broad; eye distinguishable under the ocular; four upper labials, first largest, third in contact with the ocular. Diameter of the body 50 times in the total length; tail twice as long as broad, ending in a spine. 20 scales round the body. Olive-brown above, head white; yellowish inferiorly, with small scattered olive spots.

A single specimen, 170 millim. long, from Porto Real, Province Rio Janeiro, collected by M. Hardy du Dréneuf.

*Typhlops leucoproctus.*

Snout rounded, moderately projecting; nostrils lateral. Rostral about one third the width of the head, extending to the level of the eyes; nasal nearly completely divided, the cleft proceeding from the second labial; præocular present, a little narrower than the nasal or the ocular, in contact with the second and third labials; eye distinguishable; upper head-scales moderately enlarged; four upper labials. Diameter of body 40 to 65 times in the total length; tail once and a half to twice as long as broad, ending in a spine. 20 scales round the body. Dark brown, somewhat lighter inferiorly; labial and anal regions yellowish.

Fly River (New Guinea) and Murray Island (Torres Straits), collected by the Rev. S. Macfarlane; Queensland. The largest specimen measures 220 millim.

*Typhlops comorensis.*

Snout depressed, rounded, strongly projecting; nostrils lateral. Rostral two fifths the width of the head, extending to the level of the eyes; nasal semidivided, the cleft proceeding from the second labial; præocular present, as broad as the ocular, in contact with the second and third labials; eye distinct; upper head-scales feebly enlarged; four upper labials. Diameter of body 54 times in the total length; tail

once and a half as long as broad. 20 scales round the body. Dark brown; labial and anal regions yellowish.

A single specimen, 245 millim. long, from the Comoro Islands, collected by Sir John Kirk.

*Typhlops socotranus.*

Snout rounded, very prominent; nostrils lateral. Rostral about one third the width of the head, not extending to the level of the eyes; nasal incompletely divided, the cleft proceeding from the second labial; præocular present, broader than the nasal or the ocular, in contact with the second and third labials; eye distinct; upper head-scales slightly enlarged; four upper labials. Diameter of body 37 to 50 times in the total length; tail as long as broad, ending in a spine. 24 scales round the body. Whitish, with pale brown lines running between the dorsal series of scales.

Two specimens, the largest 200 millim. long, from Socotra, collected by Prof. J. B. Balfour.

*Typhlops torresianus.*

Snout prominent, rounded; nostrils inferior. Rostral about one third the width of the head, not extending quite to the level of the eyes, the portion visible from below half as broad as long; nasal incompletely divided, the cleft extending from the second labial to the upper surface of the snout; præocular present, narrower than the nasal or the ocular, in contact with the second and third labials; eye distinguishable; præfrontal, supraoculars, and parietals enlarged; four upper labials. Diameter of body 40 to 43 times in the total length; tail a little longer than broad, ending in a spine. 22 scales round the body. Dark olive or brown above, the scales edged with lighter; whitish inferiorly.

Two specimens, the largest 400 millim. long, from Murray Island, Torres Straits, collected by the Rev. S. Macfarlane.

*Typhlops reginæ.*

Snout prominent, rounded; nostrils inferior. Rostral nearly half the width of the head, not extending to the level of the eyes, the portion visible from below longer than broad; nasal incompletely divided, the cleft extending from the first labial to the upper surface of the snout; præocular present, nearly as broad as the nasal or the ocular, in contact with the second and third labials; eye distinguishable; præfrontal, supraoculars, and parietals much enlarged; four upper labials.

Diameter of body 37 to 50 times in the total length; tail a little longer than broad, ending in a spine. 22 scales round the body. Greyish olive above, whitish inferiorly.

Three specimens, the largest 410 millim. long, from Queensland, collected by Colonel Beddome.

*Typhlops Blanfordii*.

*Typhlops Eschrichtii* (non Schleg.), Blanf. Geol. and Zool. Abyss. p. 457.

Snout very prominent, depressed, rounded, with inferior nostrils. Rostral large, more than half the width of the head, extending to between the eyes, the portion visible from below nearly as long as broad; nasal semidivided, the cleft proceeding from the first labial; præocular present, much narrower than the nasal or the ocular, in contact with the second and third labials; eye distinct, below the suture between the præocular and the ocular; præfrontal much enlarged, supraoculars and parietals feebly enlarged; four upper labials. Diameter of body 40 times in the total length; tail broader than long, ending in a spine. 30 scales round the body. Olive-grey, basal half of each dorsal scale blackish; a narrow whitish stripe along the middle of the lower surface.

A single specimen, 320 millim. long, from Senafé, Abyssinia.

*Typhlops affinis*.

Under this name I propose to designate a small *Typhlops*, 170 millim. long, which has been regarded by Peters (Monatsb. Berl. Akad. 1867, p. 709) as the young of his *T. unguirostris*, with which it agrees in every respect except in having only 18 scales round the body (instead of 22 or 24) and a somewhat longer tail.

Queensland.

---

XLIX.—*Descriptions of two new Rhynchophorous Coleoptera from the Louisiade Archipelago.* By CHARLES O. WATERHOUSE.

A SMALL series of Coleoptera from the Louisiade Archipelago has recently been presented to the British Museum by Mr. Basil Thomson. Among them is a new species of Mr. Pascoe's genus *Apirocalus* and a new *Rhinoscapa*. There is also a